

We claim:

1. A method comprising:

- identifying a first party that provides a powered mobile platform wherein powered movement of the powered mobile platform requires consumption of at least a first fuel, wherein the powered mobile platform has a characteristic economy that corresponds to consumption of the first fuel;
- providing to the first party a material that, when utilized during powered movement of the powered mobile platform, improves the characteristic economy of the powered mobile platform as corresponds to consumption of the first fuel; and
- receiving a fuel economy credit as a result of improving the characteristic economy due to the material.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a motor train lubricant.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a motor train lubricant additive.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a gear lubricant additive.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a gear lubricant.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a transmission fluid additive.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the transmission fluid additive comprises a manual transmission fluid additive.
8. The method of claim 6 wherein the transmission fluid additive comprises an automatic transmission fluid additive.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a transmission fluid.
10. The method of claim 9 wherein the transmission fluid comprises a manual transmission fluid.
11. The method of claim 9 wherein the transmission fluid comprises an automatic transmission fluid.
12. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises an engine oil additive.
13. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises an engine oil.
14. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a crankcase oil additive.
15. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a crankcase oil.
16. The method of claim 1 wherein the material comprises a liquid.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the liquid comprises a substance that reduces loading on the powered mobile platform.

18. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

- identifying a second party that provides a second powered mobile platform wherein powered movement of the second powered mobile platform requires consumption of at least a second fuel, wherein the second powered mobile platform has a characteristic economy that corresponds to consumption of the second fuel;
- transferring to the second party at least part of the fuel economy credit, which fuel economy credit serves as an offset to the second party's characteristic economy that corresponds to consumption of the second fuel by the second powered mobile platform.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the second fuel is substantially identical to the first fuel.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein the second fuel is substantially dissimilar to the first fuel.

21. The method of claim 18 wherein transferring to the second party at least part of the fuel economy credit includes transferring to the second party at least part of the fuel economy credit in exchange for something of value.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein transferring to the second party at least part of the fuel economy credit in exchange for something of value comprises transferring to the second party at least part of the fuel economy credit in exchange for at least one of:

- a substantially liquid monetary instrument;
- commitment of at least one of present and future business opportunity;
- a legal grant regarding an intellectual property right;
- access to purchasers of a given market.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein the fuel economy credit comprises a regulated fuel economy credit.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the regulated fuel economy credit comprises a fuel economy credit that is regulated by at least one of a city, county, state, provincial, national, regional, multinational, and international sovereign entity.

25. The method of claim 1 wherein the characteristic economy comprises a voluntarily regulated metric of interest.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein the fuel economy credit comprises a voluntarily-administered fuel economy credit.

27. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving a fuel economy credit includes receiving the fuel economy credit substantially directly from a regulatory agency.

28. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving a fuel economy credit includes receiving the fuel economy credit substantially directly from an administrative entity.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein receiving the fuel economy credit substantially directly from an administrative entity includes receiving the fuel economy credit substantially directly from an administrative entity that administers voluntary compliance with a characteristic economy improvement credit program.

30. The method of claim 1 wherein providing to the first party a material that, when utilized during powered movement of the powered mobile platform, improves the characteristic economy of the powered mobile platform as corresponds to consumption of the first fuel comprises the first party providing the material to itself.

31. The method of claim 1 wherein providing to the first party a material that, when utilized during powered movement of the powered mobile platform, improves the characteristic economy of the powered mobile platform as corresponds to consumption of the first fuel comprises another party providing the material to the first party.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein receiving fuel economy credit includes the another party receiving the fuel economy credit.

33. The method of claim 1 wherein the characteristic economy corresponds to average economy under varied operating conditions for the powered mobile platform.

34. The method of claim 1 wherein the characteristic economy corresponds to economy under at least one controlled operating condition for the powered mobile platform.

35. The method of claim 34 wherein the at least one controlled operating condition comprises at least one of:

- operation of the powered mobile platform within a predetermined range of speed;
- operation of an engine for the powered mobile platform within a predetermined range of speed;
- operation of the powered mobile platform within a predetermined range of loading;
- operation of an engine for the powered mobile platform within a predetermined range of loading;
- operation of the powered mobile platform at a plurality of predetermined levels of performance;
- operation of an engine for the powered mobile platform at a plurality of predetermined levels of performance.

36. The method of claim 1 wherein the powered mobile platform comprises at least one of:

- an automobile;
- a truck;
- a construction vehicle;
- a recreational vehicle;
- a marine vehicle;
- an aircraft.

37. The method of claim 1 wherein the characteristic economy that corresponds to consumption of the first fuel corresponds to heat output as derived per mass unit of fuel consumed.

38. The method of claim 37 wherein the characteristic economy further corresponds to British Thermal Units of heat output as derived per mass unit of fuel consumed.

39. The method of claim 37 wherein the characteristic economy corresponds to miles per gallon of fuel consumed.

40. A method comprising:

- identifying a first party that provides a powered platform wherein operation of the powered platform requires consumption of at least a first fuel, wherein the powered platform has a characteristic economy that corresponds to consumption of the first fuel;
- providing to the first party a material that, when utilized during operation of the powered platform, improves the characteristic economy of the powered platform as corresponds to consumption of the first fuel; and
- receiving a fuel economy credit as a result of improving the characteristic economy due to the material.

41. The method of claim 40 wherein the powered platform comprises a mobile platform.

42. The method of claim 40 wherein the mobile platform comprises one of:

- a terrestrial vehicle;

- a water-borne vehicle;
- an air-borne vehicle.

43. The method of claim 41 wherein the mobile platform comprises one of:

- an automobile;
- a truck;
- a construction vehicle;
- a rail-guided vehicle;
- a motorcycle;
- a snowmobile;
- an all-terrain vehicle;
- a military vehicle;
- a rescue conveyance.

44. The method of claim 40 wherein the powered platform comprises a stationary platform.

45. The method of claim 44 wherein the stationary platform comprises one of:

- a power generation station;
- a combustion unit;
- an incinerator;
- a manufacturing plant;
- a construction site;
- a secondary power generation station.